Quarterly Population Report

Fourth Quarter - 2012

March 20, 2013

Population Estimates*

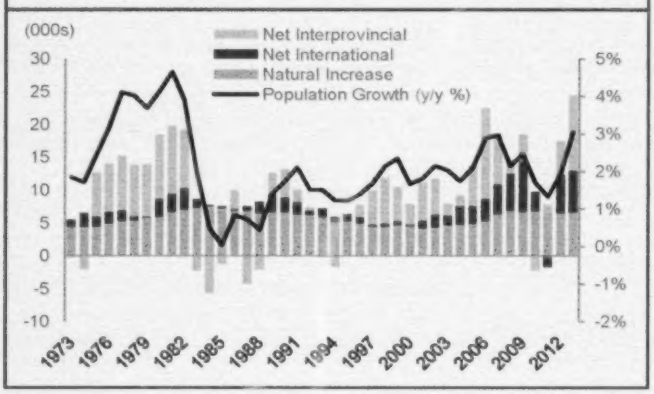
Fuelled by strong interprovincial migration, Alberta led all provinces in population growth for the fifth consecutive quarter. Alberta's population expanded by 24,500 people in the fourth quarter to 3,931,341. Alberta added the largest number of residents compared with any jurisdiction, and the population growth rate (+0.63%) was quadruple the national average (0.15%). Among the provinces, only Alberta, Saskatchewan (0.30%) and Manitoba (0.29%) grew faster than the national average.

* all data are from Statistics Canada

TABLE 1: POPULATION & GROWTH RATES, CANADA & ALBERTA

	Population			Yearly Growth Rate	
1-Jan	Canada	Alberta	1-Jan	Canada	Alberta
2008	33,103,686	3,545,907	2008	1.12%	2.13%
2009	33,509,633	3,633,135	2009	1.23%	2.46%
2010	33,915,541	3,694,761	2010	1.21%	1.70%
2011	34,296,981	3,743,605	2011	1.12%	1.32%
2012	34,671,306	3,815,498	2012	1.09%	1.92%
2013	35,056,064	3,931,341	2013	1.11%	3.04%

FIGURE 1: ALBERTA COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE



On a year-over-year basis, Alberta's population growth of 3.04% led the country (Table 1) and was the highest growth rate since the third quarter of 2006. Alberta witnessed an unprecedented annual gain of 115,843 people† in the calendar year of 2012. The gain was mainly driven by 85,978 net migrants from all sources, the highest level ever recorded. The net inflow of 45,718 interprovincial migrants was the largest inflow since 2006 (46,239) and accounted for about 40% the province's annual population growth.

After Alberta, Saskatchewan (2.03%) had the next highest annual growth rate (Table 2).The national population increased by 1.11%, adding about 385,000 people.

Migration

Migration continued to boost population growth for Alberta as it accounted for almost 75 per cent of the population growth in the fourth quarter. The province welcomed almost 18,000 net migrants from international and provincial sources (Figure 1), representing the highest fourth quarter gain on record.

Interprovincial Migration

Standing out from the crowd at 11,533 in the fourth quarter, Alberta had the strongest net inflow of interprovincial migrants in the country. This striking gain was more than double the amount in the same quarter of last year (5,122) and was the highest fourth quarter gain since 2005. The dominant migration origins were Ontario (4,544) and British Columbia (2,644). The fourth quarter saw a continuation of the trend of increasing interprovincial migration from Atlantic Canada. During the boom times of 2006, Alberta attracted relatively larger net inflows of Atlantic migrants, which dissipated during the economic recession of 2009. The fourth quarter of the last two years demonstrated an acceleration of migration from the Atlantic. About 2,000 net interprovincial migrants arrived in Alberta in the fourth quarter of 2012. Nationwide, some regions experienced a net loss and some others maintained a balanced level of interprovincial migration (Table 3). Ontario had the largest net outflow of 4,061, followed by British Columbia (-2,234).

† This differs from 95,673 population growth over the census year of 2012 (July 1- June 30)

TABLE 2: POPULATION OF PROVINCES/TERRITORIES AS OF JANUARY 1, 2013 & GROWTH RATES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2012

	Canada	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
Population	35,056,064	513,636	145,927	946,759	754,698	8,084,973	13,561,034	1,274,279	1,089,807	3,931,341	4,639,862	36,215	43,407	34,126
Growth Rate	1.11%	0.03%	0.05%	-0.18%	-0.15%	0.91%	0.91%	1.18%	2.03%	3.04%	0.85%	1.72%	-0.74%	1.54%

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Net International Migration

Alberta's share of all immigrants to Canada continued its rise, reaching 15% in the fourth quarter, the highest share since 1982. Similar to the previous quarter, the number of immigrants remained elevated at 9,081, the highest fourth quarter level ever (Table 4). The province saw a net outflow of 1,133 non-permanent residents (NPRs) in the fourth quarter. However, this drop was not unexpected since the net number of NPRs tends to be smaller in the last quarter of the year. A total of 6,296 net international migrants moved to Alberta, including to decline in NPRs, which accounted for about 25 per cent of the population growth during the fourth quarter of 2012.

Natural Increase

During the fourth quarter of 2012, Alberta posted a natural increase (births minus deaths) of 6,673 people, the result of 12,879 births and 6,206 deaths. The provincial population grew by 0.17% due to natural increase, the highest rate among the provinces, and more than double the national average rate of 0.08%.

TABLE 3: ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF INTERPROVINCIAL MIGRANTS OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012

Origin \ Destination	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NT	NU
NL	0	0	100	35	23	443	33	55	606	69	0	0	0
PEI	56	0	122	87	20	229	0	0	175	82	0	0	0
NS	165	84	0	515	80	1,028	24	41	1,414	224	12	22	6
NB	53	22	465	0	198	572	61	50	805	129	0	0	22
QC	42	4	130	178	0	3,360	123	45	1,298	357	6	0	6
ON	589	185	1,102	499	2,243	0	802	806	6,382	2,385	12	81	7
MB	37	0	66	39	103	836	0	423	986	509	0	5	14
SK	13	3	17	42	68	591	431	0	2,166	550	0	12	0
AB	437	8	257	222	252	1,838	620	1,532	0	3,118	15	66	12
BC	74	13	218	59	556	2,044	347	543	5,762	0	131	64	16
YT	0	0	28	0	0	33	0	31	135	109	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	181	53	62	0	20
NU	12	0	0	0	18	58	22	10	0	8	12	11	0

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NT	NU
IN	1,478	319	2,505	1,676	3,561	11,032	2,463	3,554	19,910	7,593	250	261	103
OUT	1,364	771	3,615	2,377	5,549	15,093	3,018	3,893	8,377	9,827	336	334	151
NET	114	-452	-1,110	-701	-1,988	-4,061	-555	-339	11,533	-2,234	-86	-73	-48

Q4 2012	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NT	NU
Outflow to AB	606	175	1,414	805	1,298	6,382	986	2,166	n/a	5,762	135	181	0
Inflow from AB	437	8	257	222	252	1,838	620	1,532	n/a	3,118	15	66	12
Net Flow to AB	169	167	1,157	583	1,046	4,544	366	634	n/a	2,644	120	115	-12

Estimates of non-permanent residents (NPRs) represent the number of "...persons who are lawfully in Canada on a temporary basis under the authority of a temporary resident permit, along with members of their family living with them. Non-permanent residents (NPR) include foreign workers, foreign students, the humanitarian population and other temporary residents. The humanitarian population includes refugee claimants and temporary residents who are allowed to remain in Canada on humanitarian grounds and are not categorized as either foreign workers or foreign students."

Source: Statistics Canada

TABLE 4: ALBERTA COMPONENTS OF GROWTH BY QUARTER

Quarters in Census Year	Interprovincial Migration			International Migration						Total	Vital Events		Total*
	In	Out	Net	Immigrants	Net Non-Permanent Residents	Emigrants	Net Temporary Emigrants	Returning Emigrants	Net	Total Net Migration	Births	Deaths	Sum of Components
2008-09													
Jul-Sep	22,732	20,075	2,657	6,455	7,870	3,450	1,092	1,535	11,318	13,975	13,438	5,020	22,393
Oct-Dec	15,137	11,026	4,111	5,201	4,574	1,970	802	691	7,694	11,805	12,241	5,495	18,551
Jan-Mar	18,711	14,026	4,685	5,764	4,489	1,499	710	731	8,775	13,460	12,310	5,427	20,343
Apr-Jun	18,658	16,927	1,731	7,739	2,708	1,597	730	1,178	9,298	11,029	13,319	5,098	19,250
Total	**75,238**	**62,054**	**13,184**	**25,159**	**19,641**	**8,516**	**3,334**	**4,135**	**37,085**	**50,269**	**51,308**	**21,040**	**80,537**
2009-10													
Jul-Sep	16,263	18,283	-2,020	7,585	2,284	2,517	1,054	1,427	7,725	5,705	13,697	4,887	14,515
Oct-Dec	9,436	11,638	-2,202	5,929	-1,486	1,463	787	706	2,899	697	12,397	5,576	7,518
Jan-Mar	15,008	14,860	148	6,762	-99	1,214	724	672	5,397	5,545	12,263	5,602	12,206
Apr-Jun	17,251	16,448	803	9,729	-685	1,381	767	1,183	8,079	8,882	13,165	5,258	16,789
Total	**57,958**	**61,229**	**-3,271**	**30,005**	**14**	**6,575**	**3,332**	**3,988**	**24,100**	**20,829**	**51,522**	**21,323**	**51,028**
2010-11													
Jul-Sep	16,766	16,767	-1	9,485	-1,822	2,505	1,031	1,426	5,553	5,552	13,218	5,046	13,724
Oct-Dec	12,428	11,098	1,330	6,667	-6,704	1,547	796	706	-1,674	-344	12,222	5,753	6,125
Jan-Mar	15,768	12,608	3,160	5,916	-419	1,289	732	672	4,148	7,308	12,404	5,781	13,931
Apr-Jun	19,013	15,059	3,954	8,389	1,341	1,462	775	1,183	8,676	12,630	13,331	5,425	20,536
Total	**63,975**	**55,532**	**8,443**	**30,457**	**-7,604**	**6,803**	**3,334**	**3,987**	**16,703**	**25,146**	**51,175**	**22,005**	**54,316**
2011-12													
Jul-Sep	22,809	20,031	2,778	8,970	2,186	2,603	1,044	1,426	8,935	11,713	13,402	5,210	19,905
Oct-Dec	16,053	10,931	5,122	7,690	-149	1,556	791	706	5,900	11,022	12,437	5,938	17,521
Jan-Mar	24,177	12,451	11,726	7,520	2,440	1,295	728	672	8,609	20,335	12,688	5,972	27,051
Apr-Jun	26,133	17,589	8,544	10,358	5,244	1,468	771	1,183	14,546	23,090	13,716	5,610	31,196
Total	**89,172**	**61,002**	**28,170**	**34,538**	**9,721**	**6,922**	**3,334**	**3,987**	**37,990**	**66,160**	**52,243**	**22,730**	**95,673**
2012-13													
Jul-Sep	31,963	18,048	13,915	9,105	3,946	2,624	1,044	1,426	10,809	24,724	13,816	5,446	33,094
Oct-Dec	19,910	8,377	11,533	9,081	-1,133	1,567	791	706	6,296	17,829	12,879	6,206	24,502
Jan-Mar	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Apr-Jun	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	**51,873**	**26,425**	**25,448**	**18,186**	**2,813**	**4,191**	**1,835**	**2,132**	**17,105**	**42,553**	**26,695**	**11,652**	**57,596**

* The sum of the components may not equal the total quarterly population change due to differences in the methods used to derive intercensal and post censal estimates.